

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A polyethylene glycol (PEG)-polypeptide homodimer complex, comprising

a first PEG molecule; and

two molecules of a polypeptide,

wherein the polypeptide is human growth hormone, interferon or granulocyte colony stimulating factor;

wherein the two molecules of the polypeptide are linked to each other via the first PEG molecule to form a polypeptide-first PEG-polypeptide complex, and the polypeptides of the polypeptide-first PEG-polypeptide complex each are bonded to a second PEG molecule having a larger molecular weight than that of the first PEG molecule to form a second PEG-polypeptide-first PEG-polypeptide-second PEG complex, the first ~~and second~~ PEG molecules having a molecular weights ranging from 2 kDa to 20 kDa and the second PEG molecule having a molecular weight ranging from 20 kDa to 40 kDa, respectively, and

wherein the first PEG molecule is covalently bonded to the N-terminal residue or the C-terminal residue of the polypeptides.

2. (previously presented): The complex of claim 1, wherein the first PEG molecule is covalently bonded to the respective N-terminal residue of the polypeptide molecules.

3. (previously presented): The complex of claim 1, wherein the second PEG molecule is covalently bonded to an amino group of a lysine residue of the polypeptide molecules.

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented): The complex of claim 1, wherein the first PEG molecule has two aldehyde or propionic aldehyde groups at each end.

Claims 6-7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented): The complex of claim 1, wherein said second PEG molecule has at one end a reactive group selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl propionate, succinimidyl carboxymethyl, succinimidyl carbonate and maleimide.

9. (previously presented): The complex of claim 1, wherein said second PEG molecule is linear or branched.

Claims 10 - 11 (canceled)

12. (withdrawn): A method for preparing the PEG-polypeptide homodimer complex of claim 1, which comprises the steps of: (a) preparing a homodimer by connecting two molecules of a physiologically active polypeptide via a PEG linker; and (b) modifying each of the two molecules of the physiologically active polypeptide of the homodimer with one molecule of PEG.